

The **SOUTHEAST NEWS**

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 3 - Number 8

MAY, 1955



DUNCAN'S CREEK CHURCH

— 1855 - 1955 —

(Story on page 10)

CONVOCATION SPEAKER



Rev. Russell T. Loesch

Guest speaker for the Convocation and Training School for ministers of the Southeast Convention, held May 2-6 at Southern Union College, was the Rev. Russell T. Loesch of New York City, Minister and Secretary to the Chaplains and the Armed Forces Personnel of the Congregational Christian Churches.

The Rev. Loesch preached a sermon each evening and also served as consultant in the informal discussion of the "Associates in Reading" course each morning, offered for ordained men.

Mr. Loesch, who assumed this new national post under the General Council March 1, was himself a U. S. Army chaplain in World War II serving in the European Theatre. This position is a pioneer venture of the denomination for members of the armed services prior to their entry into the service, during their service and afterwards.

Mr. Loesch left a highly successful eight and a half year pastorate of the Congregational Church of Melrose Highlands, Mass. While in that pastorate he led an extensive building campaign, one unit of which already has been completed.

Active in many civic affairs as well as in interracial and interdenominational groups in Melrose, Mr. Loesch also served with the Massachusetts Council of Churches on their Radio and Television Committee.

Born near Cleveland, Ohio, and educated in Ohio schools, Mr. Loesch is a graduate of Oberlin College. He took his theological training at Andover - Newton Theological Seminary and while there secured social service experience in Boston's famous South End House under the Carl Paton Fellowship.

Church Vocations Sunday

Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer, Director of the Department of the Ministry and Associate Minister of the General Council, recommends that Sunday, May 22 be observed in our churches as Church Vocations Sunday,—a day on which the Christian ministry as a vocation could be emphasized in worship services. The emphasis on such a day would, of course, include all professional religious work and not merely the pastoral ministry.

Some of the values which might come out of the celebration of a Church Vocations Sunday are:

1. Members of our churches might get a clearer and a truer picture of the education, work, training, joys, problems of the minister.
2. Worthy young people might be challenged and encouraged to consider the ministry as a life work.
3. Local congregations might become more deeply concerned about the training of ministers, and show this concern by increased interest in and support of theological students and seminaries.
4. Ministers, both younger and older, might be encouraged by such an observance to "ponder anew that the Almighty can do" with them in their work for Him in His Church.

Dr. Buschmeyer Succeeds Dr. Horton

Dr. Raymond B. Walker, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Congregational Christian Churches, announced April 29 that Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer has been elected Acting General Secretary of the denomination's General Council. Dr. Buschmeyer succeeds Dr. Douglas Horton, who leaves July 1 to become dean of Harvard Divinity School.

The announcement comes just one week after the General Commission on Chaplains, meeting in Washington, D. C., elected him to a two-year term as chairman of that interdenominational organization. Since this is an honorary position, Dr. Buschmeyer will be able to accept both responsibilities.

The Hymnal Questionnaire

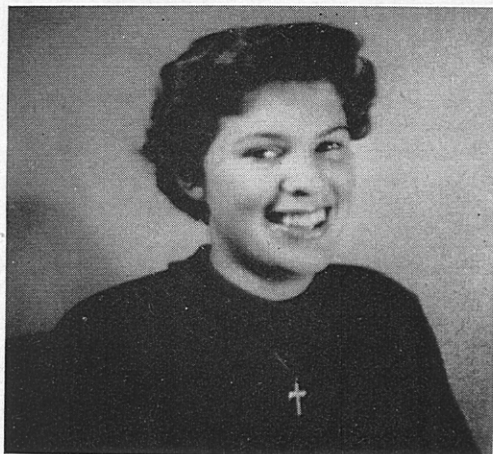
The Rev. Albert C. Ronander, Secretary of The Hymnal Committee, announces that a new hymnal is in process of development for our fellowship. To assist the Hymnal Committee in its work, questionnaires are being sent out to all our churches to find out what the hymnal usages and preferences are.

The churches of the Southeast Convention are urged to give careful study and consideration to the questions, and to make a special effort to return the questionnaire to the Committee as soon as possible. The Committee is eager to get as wide and as representative a sampling of opinion and practice as it is possible to secure, and we do want them to have the usages and preferences of our churches in the South.

Student Summer Service

The Student Summer Service program is a plan whereby a certain number of colleges and seminary students, and sometimes older high school young people, spend the summer teaching Vacation Bible Schools, helping with local young people's groups, working at summer conferences, and sometimes even filling pulpits where needed and desired.

Letters have gone out to pastors and church clerks with application blanks for those desiring to participate in this summer program, and schedules are being made up by the Rev. Annie R. Campbell, Minister of Christian Education.



Sally Higginbotham

This summer a fine group of young people will be working in this area, most of them from our own Southeast Convention.

Sally Higginbotham College, from Reno, Nev. Francis Charrier, Union Theological Seminary, from Hartford, Conn. Worked in area during 1952.

Billie McGlawn, Southern Union College, from Steppville, Ala.

Jerry Paul, Southern Union College, from Bonifay, Fla.



Billie McGlawn



Mary Stewart

Mary Stewart, of Pleasant Hill, Tenn., worked in S.S.S. program in our area last summer.

Betty Slater, of Chattanooga, Tenn., worked in S.S.S. program in our area last summer.

The girls will be sent out in teams of two, with books and materials for conducting the vacation schools. It is always helpful if the church has several people designated as helpers to the student workers, as a better school can be taught if the children can be divided into several age groups.

Books Available

If your church is planning to run its own Vacation Bible School this summer, there are a limited number of course books which could be loaned out from the Atlanta office for your use. They are as follows:

KINDERGARTEN (4 and 5 year olds)

2 - Let's Go Out of Doors, Jannie Lou Milton. Cooperative Series.

PRIMARY (1st, 2nd and 3rd grades)

1 - The Earth is Full of His Riches, Rice
3 - Learning from Jesus, Armilda B. Keiser

JUNIOR (4th, 5th and 6th grades)

1 - Our Father's Business: 1 Teacher's Manual and 1 Pupil's Manual, Graded Press
3 - Followers of Jesus, Elizabeth S. Whitehouse Cooperative Series

INTERMEDIATES (Junior High)

2 - Jesus the Great Leader, Judson Press
(2 Teachers' Manual; 2 Pupils' Manual)

MISSIONARY STORY BOOKS

3 - Around the World with the Bible, Rinden
1 - Ke Soonie (Korean Child), Fairfax & Buie
1 - Little South Americans, Nina Millen

If you are interested in any of these books, please write to the Rev. Annie R. Campbell, 673 Piedmont Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Ga.

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STAFF

Rev. Erston M. Butterfield, Supt.Editor

Rev. Annie R. Campbell.....

Minister, Christian Education

Mrs. Ed. A. AlbrightRegistrar

Mrs. Jettie LoganPromotion

Volume 3

MAY 15, 1955

Number 7

Citation for Meritorious Service

To the Reverend C. Carl Dollar, Director of the Christian Rural Extension Service, Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches:

It is with heartfelt thanks that the members of the Southeast Convention, assembled here this Wednesday afternoon for annual meeting, pay tribute to your splendid contribution to the work of the Southeast Convention during these past five years of growth and progress.

Your willingness to serve in varied ways; your ready sense of humor; and your ecumenical spirit, keenly alive to the Mission of the Church, have immeasurably strengthened the fellowship of churches.

We salute you for your devotion to the ideal that the kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdoms of the Lord our God, permeated by the spirit of the living Christ.

This citation now presented is a token of our sincere appreciation for the five years of devoted service and noble achievement you have given to the Southeast Convention. It symbolizes also our gratitude for the zeal which has characterized your work through which we have developed a deeper spiritual bond, tender ties of love and esteem, binding us together in a creative fellowship of Christian faith which we know will continue to yield the rich fruits of the spirit for years to come, to bless the churches, the Southeast Convention, and through them the nation and the world.

Given under our hand this 20th day of April in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Five.

signed: Lowell A. Smoot, Moderator

Arnold Slater, Past Moderator

Erston M. Butterfield, Superintendent

Laymen's Fund

At the business session of the Laymen's Fellowship, held after the breakfast on April 20, the

DR. DOUGLASS IMPROVED

Members of the Southeast Convention will be glad to know that Dr. Truman B. Douglass is now out of the hospital and at home in his apartment. It is expected that he will be resuming his work early in October.

question was presented as to how to obtain funds necessary to advance the fellowship in this area.

After some discussion it was decided to request the men of all the churches to contribute 10 cents each. A letter to this effect is being forwarded to each church. In the meantime, if any church has already taken such action, the amount collected should be forwarded to James Dollar, Langdale, Ala., the secretary-treasurer of the Laymen's Fellowship.

- Wm. Frank Gordon, President

Ordination Services

Two ordination services by Ecclesiastical Council have been held recently in the Southeast Convention:

THE REVEREND DONALD J. ROSS, May 1, 1955, at the Elder Congregational Christian Church in Dadeville, Ala., by Ecclesiastical Council of the East Alabama Association on request of the Elder and New Hope Churches.

Ministers participating in the Ordination service were: The Reverends John D. Dollar, C. Carl Dollar, Carl J. Landes, Charles W. Bell, David W. Clark, and Superintendent Erston M. Butterfield.

THE REVEREND W. RAYMOND BERRY, April 17, 1955, at the Antioch Congregational Christian Church in Andalusia, Ala., by Ecclesiastical Council of the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association in response to a request by the Antioch Church.

Ministers participating in the service were: the Reverends David W. Shepherd, Annie R. Campbell, Lowell A. Smoot, C. Carl Dollar, A. R. Van Cleave, and Clyde C. Flannery.

An Ecclesiastical Council is composed of the pastors and delegates of churches within the association, invited to review the credentials, experience and a prepared statement concerning his Christian experience and call to the ministry, and his views on Christian doctrine, of the candidate for ordination. Vote is by roll call of the churches, with each minister and delegate rising and casting his vote, making comments as he may desire.

The candidate for ordination is then informed of the vote, and a recess declared until the time for the Ordination Service. This is a most impressive service, including the "Vows of Ordination".

Dr. David W. Shepherd, former Superintendent of the Southeast Convention and now pastor in Virgilina, Va., preached the sermon for Mr. Berry's ordination.

The Rev. Carl Landes of Southern Union College preached the sermon for the ordination service of Mr. Ross.

DR. HORTON RESIGNS

Announcement was made on April 12 that Dr. Douglas Horton, since 1938 minister and executive secretary of the General Council of our Congregational Christian churches, has been called to be dean of Harvard Divinity School and will assume that office in July of this year.

Our response to this news is a mixture of consternation and pride. Dr. Horton's removal from the position of leadership in our fellowship, which he has done so much to enhance, cannot fail to cause us grave concern; but we also find in it deep satisfaction since we realize how signal an opportunity this call to Harvard represents.

Knowing the history and new purposes of the divinity school and given Dr. Horton's denominational and interdenominational relationships, we can certainly understand why he has accepted the call to Harvard. It was the first institution for the training of Christian ministers to be founded on these shores. Its divinity school has a peerless history. Dr. Horton enters upon his deanship just when the university is launching one of the most significant enterprises on which it has ever embarked: a newly constituted "Center of Religious Learning", in which "interdenominational churchmanship", according to a recent announcement, will be stressed.

In laying down his work with us, Douglas Horton is presenting us with a mighty challenge. He has indeed led us far toward a fresh and clearer vision of our ultimate objectives; he has pressed upon us the necessity for a re-examination of ourselves. He has endeavored with indefatigable enthusiasm and resolute courage to fire us all with a spirit like his own.

We Congregational Christians, in general, had no doubt too long pursued a course not far from sheer complacency. Many of us were in no little danger of becoming superficially self-satisfied, contented with ourselves and with our honorable traditions.

Douglas Horton has done much to qualify or mitigate our self-assurance. He has done something to reopen our eyes. During the years that Dr. Horton has been in office, most of us have come to a far richer and more vital sense of churchmanship than ever we had before. But he will not be with us—as executive of the fellowship—to help us achieve that maturely Christian self-possession which comes to those whom the Holy Spirit has possessed.

So the call comes now to us. As the minister and executive secretary of our General Council moves on to undertake the significant task to which he has been called at Harvard, we must carry on. How wisely, bravely, competently can we, may we, shall we do this?

Of course, as a fellowship of Christian people whose sights are very high, we Congregational Christians depend much less upon our individual leaders than upon our corporate ability as individuals to pray, to plan and purposefully to work together in a common cause and toward a common goal. We have many outstanding personalities in executive positions and we have strong young leaders growing up in our pulpits and pews such as our communion has not seen for a long



Dr. Douglas Horton

time. Upon all members of our Congregational Christian fellowship, therefore, is laid a personal responsibility: Namely, to renew and reaffirm our covenant with God and with each other, so that what God wills for us we may gladly do for Him and what best serves the Christian cause today on earth shall be all that we ask or need as our commission now and as our reward hereafter.

—ADVANCE editorial (condensed)

Southeast Convention Resolution

An announcement regarding Dr. Douglas Horton's resignation was made to the delegates of the Southeast Convention during the annual meeting April 19 and 20. The following Resolution was passed unanimously:

Resolved: that the Southeast Convention, thru its secretary, send a letter to the out-going Minister of the General Council, Dr. Douglas Horton, expressing our appreciation for his unyielding devotion to the General Council as its minister; his untiring efforts to strengthen the denomination and reaffirm the basic principles of Congregationalism; his keen interest and skillful leadership in the ecumenical movement.

Harvard University is to be congratulated in this appointment and the denomination is greatly honored to have Dr. Horton serve in this capacity.

German Family Arrives

The Federated Church of Demorest, Ga., has been eagerly awaiting the coming of the Damerows, a displaced German family sponsored by the church. Now that the family has arrived, the congregation is doing everything possible to welcome them and make them feel at home.

Hans, aged 35 and born in Stettin (now in Poland), Marguerite, aged 28 and from Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia, with little Peter, aged one and a half, have immediately won the hearts of their sponsors.

The church supplied a furnished apartment,

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ACTION TAKEN AT ANNUAL MEETING

Officers and committee chairmen and members elected at the annual meeting April 20, 1955 are as follows: Moderator, Rev. Archie B. Bedford; Moderator Elect, Odell Yancey; Treasurer, Wm. Frank Gordon, Registrar, Mrs. Ed. A. Albright; Member-at-large to Board of Directors, Mrs. Evelyn Churchill.

Ministry and Church Committee: Rev. Guy L. Colbert, chairman; Dr. Thos. Anderson, Dr. Jas. A. Fraser, Rev. Henry Abbott, and Dr. A. R. Van Cleave.

Survey and Church Aid Committee: Rev. Lowell A. Smoot, chairman; Rev. W. C. Carpenter, Rev. Collie Seymour, Richard Drake, James Dollar.

Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education: Rev. Joe A. French, chairman; Mrs. Emmett Bailey, Rev. Carolyn Welch, Mrs. Arnold Slater, Ken Griswold.

Christian Education and Youth Work: Mrs. Jettie Logan, chairman; Mrs. J. M. Gager, Mrs. Edw. Clark, Mrs. Raymond Berry, Mrs. M. B. Porter.

Elected to the Board of Trustees of Southern Union College, for a term of four years: W. J. Boothby, Sims Willbanks, and Pressley Ingram.

Resolutions Passed

The following resolutions were offered and passed:

- 1) that the Registrar send greetings to Dr. Thos. Anderson expressing our appreciation for his contribution to our program of progress; our regrets that he could not attend the Convention meeting; and our assurance that our prayers are with him for a speedy recovery.
- 2) that the deep appreciation of the Southeast Convention be expressed to the Rev. C. Carl Dollar for his splendid spirit of cooperation, willing and helpful service as Asst. Superintendent and Director of CRES, and also our best wishes are with him in his future work which we hope will be in the Southeast Convention.
- 3) that expressions of sincere gratitude be given to Central Church, especially the women of the Guild for their grand meals and hospitality and to the organist, Mrs. Richard Drake for her wonderful music; to the Moderator for his fine spirit and genuine efficiency in presiding; and to the committees and their officers for working faithfully and conscientiously to carry out their duties.
- 4) that the Superintendent be instructed to send a letter to Dr. Buschmeyer expressing our gratitude for his presence and his keen and inspiring address at our meeting.

In addition, a rising vote of appreciation was given by the delegates to Supt. Erston M. Butterfield for his dedicated leadership, and as an endorsement of his Program of Progress.

Constitutional Changes

It was voted that hereafter each church shall be entitled to three voting delegates; and that churches having a membership of over 100 shall

be entitled to one additional voting delegate for each additional 100 members or major fraction thereof.

Duly elected officers of the Convention and the members of the Board of Directors shall be considered delegates-at-large to Convention Meetings with full voting privileges.

The retiring Moderator shall continue as a voting member of the Board of Directors for a period of one year after the expiration of his term of office.

Fellowship Reports

The Laymen's Fellowship reported that Wm. Frank Gordon of Atlanta had been elected President for the 1955-56 year.

Mrs. M. B. Porter of Atlanta was elected by the Women's Fellowship to represent them on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention.

A Statement of Faith

(While Congregationalists do not have and cannot have an official creed the following declaration, adopted at Kansas City in 1913, is widely used among the churches.)

The Congregational Christian Churches hereby set forth the things most surely believed among us concerning faith, polity, and fellowship:

FAITH—"We believe in God the Father, Infinite in wisdom, goodness and love; and in Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord and Savior, who for us and our salvation lived and died and rose again and liveth evermore; and in the Holy Spirit, who taketh of the things of Christ and revealeth them to us, renewing, comforting, and inspiring the souls of men. We are united in striving to know the will of God as taught us in the Holy Scriptures, and in our purpose to walk in the ways of the Lord made known or to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church of Christ to proclaim the gospel to all mankind, exalting the worship of the one true God, and laboring for the progress of knowledge, the promotion of justice, the reign of peace, and the realization of human brotherhood. Depending, as did our fathers upon the continued guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth, we work and pray for the transformation of the world into the kingdom of God; and we look with faith for the triumph of righteousness and the life everlasting.

POLITY—"We believe in the freedom and responsibility of the individual soul, and the right of private judgment. We hold to the autonomy of the local church and its independence of all ecclesiastical control. We cherish the fellowship of the churches, united in district, state and national bodies, for counsel and cooperation in matters of common concern.

THE WIDER FELLOWSHIP—"While affirming the liberty of our churches and the validity of our ministry, we hold to the unity and catholicity of the Church of Christ, and will unite with all its branches in hearty cooperation; and will earnestly seek, so far as in us lies, that the prayer of our Lord for His disciples may be answered, that 'they all may be one'."

Women's Fellowship Spring Rallies

The Women's Spring Rallies of the Georgia and Alabama Women's Fellowship were held during March 8-17 with Miss Marjory Martin, Friendly Service Secretary of the national staff, as guest speaker. Theme for the Alabama rallies was "Out of the Heart of the Gospel".

The EAST ALABAMA WOMEN'S RALLY was held at Roanoke First Church, March 9th. After a covered dish supper, the women were called to order by the President, Miss Perry Lee Hill. The Rev. Carolyn Welch led the Woman's Gift Dedication service. A message on "Christian Education" was brought by the Rev. Annie R. Campbell; and Mrs. Miriam Fralic, state president, also spoke. Mrs. Joe A. French led the closing prayer. Seventeen churches were represented.

- Mrs. T. L. Head, reporter

* * *

The NORTH ALABAMA WOMEN'S RALLY was held at the Garden City Church, beginning at 10:00 a. m. on March 8. The president, Mrs. Ed Clark, called the meeting to order. The Woman's Gift Dedication was beautifully presented by Mrs. Helen Clark and ladies of Mt. Grove Church. Mrs. Fralic gave the state president's message, and the Rev. Annie Campbell spoke on "Christian Education". Mrs. Robert Shelton led the closing prayer.

* * *

The CENTRAL ALABAMA WOMEN'S RALLY was held March 10 at Mt. Olive Church near Tallassee. Mrs. Roscoe Maddox, president, called the meeting to order, and the Women's Gift Dedication was given by Mrs. A. D. Buce, Jr. and the Mt. Olive ladies. A talk on "Christian Education" was given by the Rev. Annie Campbell, and the state president's message by Mrs. Miriam Fralic. Mrs. Marrell Rhodes led the closing prayer.

* * *

The Women's Fellowship of First Church, Andalusia, entertained the SOUTH ALABAMA RALLY on March 12, with Mrs. Lulu Trawick presiding. The opening devotional was given by First Church women with Mrs. Arthur Wallace in charge.

We were delighted to have our state president, Mrs. Miriam Fralic, Mrs. Jettie Logan and Miss Marjorie Martin as honorary members.

Mrs. Martin spoke most interestingly on the Friendly Service program, and made us realize the overseas work is as important as the home missionary work. Her illustrations of first-hand incidents of Friendly Service in many countries of the world helped us to identify ourselves with needs and the joy that comes to so many when we share. We can never forget how the Creches sent through Friendly Service brought delight to many groups in Japan.

We were glad to learn why we have Friendly Service quotas, and how we can find supplementary things to do. We learned why it was wise to get information, have imagination and ingenuity, and to identify ourselves with those we were helping.

The discussion on the ever-present problem of



Miss Marjory Martin

(5th from left) at North Ala. Rally)

getting every church woman taking part in the program was very enlightening.

Mrs. Fralic spoke briefly on her trip to the National Presidents' meeting in Cleveland, and Mrs. Logan spoke for THE SOUTHEAST NEWS.

The Dedication of the Woman's Gift was given impressively by the Antioch group, using the pine tree as a symbol of the dedication of ourselves and our gifts to the Lord's work. The pine tree symbolized growth, strength, integrity, beauty, and eagerness to share.

Officers elected for the coming year are: President, Mrs. Leonard Faison of Blackwood; Vice president, Mrs. Lulu Trawick of Andalusia; Secretary, Mrs. Merwin Johnson of Blackwood; Friendly Service, Mrs. G. B. Adams of Antioch; Blackwood Church was selected for the 1956 Rally.

- Mrs. Merwin Johnson and Dora Brackin

* * *

The SOUTH GEORGIA RALLY was held at Williams Chapel Church near Waycross, March 14 with the theme "Let Us Be Large in Thought, in Word, in Deed". Mrs. Gladys Watson spoke on "What Your Active Participation in the Woman's Fellowship Can Mean to You and Your Family"; and the Rev. Goff Bedford spoke on "What Your Active Participation in the Woman's Fellowship Can Mean to Your Church". The Woman's Gift Dedication program was led by Mrs. H. Y. Sears, state president.

* * *

The CENTRAL GEORGIA RALLY was held on March 16 at Oak Grove Church in Chipley, with the theme "We Believe, We Worship, We Give." The Rev. Peter Doherty spoke on "We Believe"; the Rev. John Pickens spoke on "We Worship", and Mrs. Sears led the Woman's Gift Dedication for "We Give".

* * *

The NORTH GEORGIA RALLY was held March 17 at Center Church, Atlanta. The theme was "Co-workers With God".

Mrs. Isabel Porter, Vice-president of Georgia Women, presided, and Mrs. Jones of Center gave the welcome address. The Rev. M. B. Porter, pastor of Center Church, conducted a most helpful worship service on "What the New Day Demands

(Please turn to page 10)

Camera Hi-Lights



Left to right: Moderator Lowell A. Smoot (1954-55), Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer (keynote speaker), and Moderator Archie B. Bedford (1955-56).

Opening with a worship service conducted by the Chaplain, the Rev. Arnold Slater of Chattanooga, the third annual meeting of the Southeast Convention, organized in 1949 and meeting biennially until 1953, came to order at 10:30 a. m. on Tuesday, April 19th. Organist was Mrs. Richard Drake.

The Rev. Slater read the "Statement of Faith" as adopted in Kansas City in 1913 (see page 6).

Since the host pastor, Dr. Thos. Anderson was ill and unable to attend, John McManus, chairman of the Board of Deacons of Central Church, gave a hearty welcome to delegates and visitors.

Superintendent Butterfield introduced the distinguished visitors, and they were seated as corresponding members of the Southeast Convention: Mrs. Wm. T. Scott of Elon, N. C.; Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer, associate minister of the General Council; and Dr. Leila Anderson, Pilgrim Circuit Rider.

Glowing reports of the progress during the past year were given by the Superintendent, the Rev. C. Carl Dollar, who announced his resignation in his report.

During the afternoon session, delegates heard the keynote address by Dr. Buschmeyer, who said, "God is not to be carried by men as a good-luck charm, a symbol of self-created hopes".

In exploring the hopes of a "new day", he said that hopes are not to be taken from a new day of atomic development, sustained prosperity, more

astute diplomacy or even from the denomination's success in church expansion.

"The keynote must be taken from our Biblical understanding of what composes life's central relationship," Dr. Buschmeyer said.

"The minute we strike this note, we hear a number of overtones echoing out of the Biblical record and re-echoing in the fullness of our own experience is the overtone that He is a creating God, not a creative God carried by men as a good-luck charm, or as a symbol of self-created hopes."

The members of the New England Study Tour, conducted by the Rev. and Mrs. Galen Weaver, were introduced and welcomed. They had arrived in time to have luncheon with the delegates, and remained for part of the afternoon session before going on to Southern Union College, next stop on the tour.

During the afternoon business session, chaired by the Rev. Archie B. Bedford, Moderator Elect, a statement of policy by the Southeast Convention on the subject of "The Churches and Racial Integration" was presented for discussion and vote. This statement was prepared by the Committee on Ministry and Churches and the Social Action Committee of the Southeast Convention at the request of those attending a called meeting of all ministers and key laymen of the Southeast Convention on January 4, 1955 to consider this problem.

After general discussion, the statement was adopted, urging "increased fellowship with our



Delegates Gathering at Central Church



CHURCH BUILDERS CLUB

(Story on page 10)



Dedication Service for Officers

of Annual Meeting

Negro brethren in interracial institutes, workshops, and other religious activities”.

The statement also asked that the Board of Home Missions consider establishment of new interracial churches in areas where there is “possibility of success”.

Holding that “for the good of the churches and the information of the public, the Convention should express its conviction relevant to the matter of racial integration,” the delegates reaffirmed belief in the “continued declaration of the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God” and said they believed “the way to a non-segregated church and a nonsegregated society is the way of evolution rather than revolution, and that we cannot demand nor expect too much of too many too soon.”

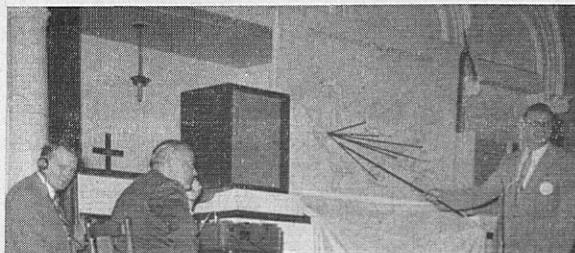
“Trans-oceanic Broadcast”

The evening program was a dramatic presentation of “Our Christian World Mission Across the Seas”, under the direction of Superintendent Butterfield, prepared by tape recordings, with the assistance of Dr. Armstrong Hunter and the personnel of the American Board.

Delegates heard moving reports from foreign mission fields in Turkey, India, South Africa, Japan and the Philippines, and a delightful greeting from Dr. Sidney M. Berry from London, England. Missionaries and nationals from the field were introduced by Dr. Alford Carleton, Executive Vice-president of the American Board.

At the final business session on Wednesday morning, officers and committees were elected, constitutional revisions voted, and resolutions passed. (see page 6).

During the afternoon delegates heard an inspiring sermon by the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield,



TRANS-OCEANIC BROADCAST

Technicians Jack Telfer and Arthur Rapp and Superintendent Erston M. Butterfield, narrator.

Superintendent, and an impressive service of installation was held for newly elected officers and members of Convention committees.

The Service of Remembrance was conducted by the Rev. Lowell A. Smoot, and the meeting closed after the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, with the tellers acting as deacons and Moderators Smoot and Bedford officiating.



CITATION FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE

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New England Study Tour Visitors



Luncheon in Central Church Assembly Room

German Family Arrives

(From page 5)

well stocked with groceries, bedding, linens, and fuel, and brightened with draperies and flowers. The day before the Damerows arrived, several women of the church, with Dr. Atkins and the pastor, went to the apartment and hung curtains, made beds, filled the cupboard and made everything as homelike as possible.

Mr. Damerow is a cabinet-maker and went immediately to work at the International Furniture Co. near Demorest. Both Mr. and Mrs. Damerow are well educated, one having a college degree, and both speak English acceptably. After church service on March 13, Mrs. Damerow said, “Everyone is so good, I feel at home—not like a stranger”. And at the last regular potluck community church supper, the newcomers delighted their friends with expressions of gratitude and tales of present day Germany.

The church congregation and the community feel that the family is already a valuable asset to both church and community.

- Mrs. E. W. Butler and Dr. Atkins

1855 - 1955

DUNCAN'S CREEK CHURCH, organized in July 1855, will hold its Centennial Celebration on May 22, 1955. Duncan's Creek Church was first organized as a Congregational Methodist Church and remained a part of that great movement until the latter part of the 1880's. This historic church, surrounded by the sacred graves of many Congregationalists of the past century, is located on Georgia State Highway 124, about eight miles from Lawrenceville and six miles from Buford.

The present church building was erected in 1889 or 1890. The original record book of the church, after it became a part of the Congregational fellowship, bears the following record:

"Duncan's Creek Church, September 14, 1889.

Conference met in order with Brother J. C. Forrester, Moderator.

1. Unfinished business: none.

2. Report of business committee: They gave the dimensions of the proposed new church. It is to be 34 by 50 feet with six lights on each side. On motion their report was received, granting them the privilege to make any changes they see proper. On Motion ten other members were added to the business committee. The following brethren were added: A. J. Crane, E. C. Maudlin, T. J. Hays, J. B. Burel, R. M. Burel, E. L. Burel, J. C. Hays, W. H. Braswell, W. M. Duncan, J. M. Lawson.

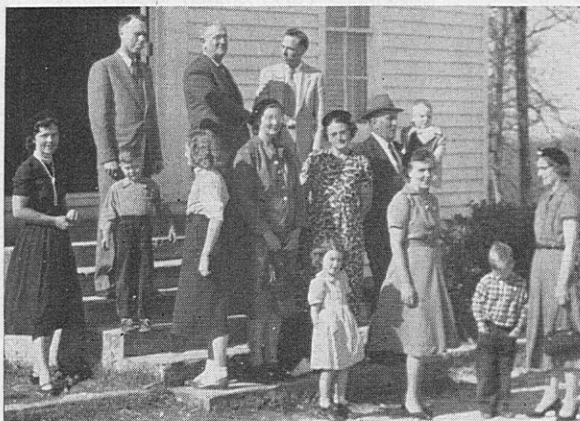
3. Election of Officers: On motion Brother J. C. Forrester was elected by acclamation. Brother L. H. Burel was elected Secretary. Our old Vigilant Committee was elected by acclamation.

4. On motion the Church agreed to give Brother W. F. Brewer five dollars to help pay his expenses to the National Council. On motion the Conference adjourned.

The Benediction.

Reverend J. C. Forrester, Presiding.
L. H. Burel, Clerk"

The annual homecoming at Duncan's Creek is held each year on the fourth Sunday in May.



Left to right: Mrs. Hoke White, Hoke White, Jack White, Miss Bonnie Ruth Boggs, A. B. Burel shaking hands with the pastor, Rev. Scott Morris, Mrs. Calvin Burel, Mrs. James Boggs, Betty Boggs, Calvin Burel holding his grandson Kent Puckett, Mrs. Grace Puckett, Roland White and Mrs. A. B. Burel.

SPRING RALLIES

(From page 7)

of Us". Mr. Porter said, "we cannot remain aloof from politics and economic questions. We must help find solutions for the problems which concern ALL of us."

Mrs. Sears, state president, brought a helpful message on "Cooperation".

Officers were elected as follows: President, Mrs. M. B. Porter of Atlanta; Secretary, Mrs. Robert Lokey of Demorest; Treasurer, Mrs. Violet Densmore of Atlanta; Vice-president, Mrs. W. F. Gordon, Atlanta.

Mrs. Marjory Martin explained what the Missions Council is, then she told what Friendly Service does.

After a delicious luncheon, the afternoon session was opened with a prayer led by Mrs. Isabel Butterfield, "Key Woman" of Central Church Women's Fellowship.

The new officers were installed by Mrs. Sears, with Mrs. C. L. Percy of Demorest, a former state president, assisting.

Mrs. Porter asked that the new Constitution be read. Mrs. Percy read it, and discussion followed. It was decided to have the Constitution read and revised, if necessary, at the Retreat and then adopted at State Conference this fall.

Miss Martin gave helpful suggestions for preparing programs and worship services, and for getting more women interested and sharing in the work.

The Woman's Gift dedication was led by Mrs. Porter.

A most inspiring and helpful day of Christian fellowship was ended with the women joining hands in a circle and singing, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds", and closing with the Mizpah benediction.

- Mrs. Robert Lokey, Secretary

Chancel Redecorated

From the photographs following it can be seen that the chancel of the Atlanta Center Church has been improved tremendously. This was the result of a suggestion made by the pastor, the Rev. M. B. Porter, Jr., two months previously. One of the church families donated the cross and the pair of fine candlesticks as a memorial to a loved one. Another church member donated a

(Please turn to page 11)

At that time hundreds of people whose lives have been blessed in various ways by this monument to God return to the sacred place to worship God within the sanctuary and to walk with memories once again among the ancient tombstones in the yard. This year the Homecoming will be a special one, and all the men and women who have gone out from this place to serve humanity in other places, both near and far, are extended a cordial invitation to attend the services at Duncan's Creek on May 22nd, beginning at 11 o'clock. The Centennial sermon will be delivered by the present pastor, the Rev. Scott Morris, Jr.

Church Builders Club

A meeting of the officers and some members of the Church Builders' Club was held April 19 in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Southeast Convention in Atlanta.

Announcement was made by the president, the Rev. Henry C. Weaver, that 273 members have been enrolled in the recent membership drive, making the total membership 778—which is still 222 short of the 1,000 member goal. However, some churches have not sent in reports and it is hoped that final reports will increase the number.

Plans were discussed for another membership drive prior to July 3rd, the date which has been tentatively set as the day for presenting the first check to the first approved church project—the Douglas Church in Douglas, Go.

The Rev. W. C. Carpenter, secretary and treasurer, reported that there is now \$2,900 in the treasury, and plans were also discussed for sending out a notice to all members that their first pledge is now due. It was observed that many members have already paid the first pledge, and some have paid in the second and third.

It was also reported that at least eleven churches have reached the 25% membership goal, and have received the Certificates of Merit. Among these churches are: Baxley Friendship, Bristol Antioch, Waycross Williams Chapel, Pearson Union Hill, Douglas First, Tifton First, Richland First, Nashville Brookmede, Tifton Vanceville, and Chipley, Oak Grove. The South Georgia Association had also received the Certificate of Merit for 25% membership.

Architecture Institute

Dr. C. Harry Atkinson, Director of the Bureau of Church Building of the National Council of Churches, very generously consented to take over the series of area institutes on Church Building for which Dr. John R. Scotford had been scheduled.

An automobile accident which resulted in his wearing a neck brace and being unable to travel, prevented Dr. Scotford from keeping his appointments to teach at the Convocation and Ministers Training School and also to participate in the area institutes. These meetings were held for the purpose of aiding churches of the Southeast Convention with problems and questions concerning building, altering, remodeling or equipment. Churches were asked to send representatives to the nearest institute, and each person brought sandwiches for a supper—the entertaining church providing coffee, iced tea or something refreshing to drink.

The Rev. Joe A. French, chairman of the Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education Committee of the Southeast Convention was in charge of these meetings, and accompanied Dr. Atkinson on his travels from one meeting to another. Trips to nearby churches requesting a personal visit were also arranged when possible.

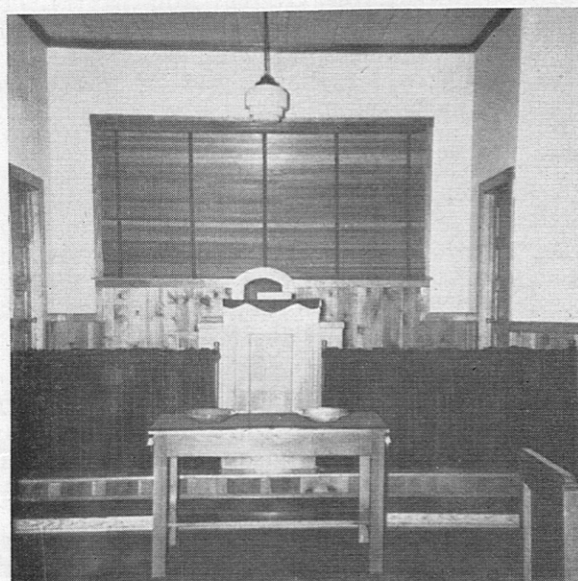
Host churches were: Birmingham Pilgrim, Tallassee Mt. Olive, Lanett Methodist, Chipley Oak Grove, Roanoke Lowell, LaGrange United.

CHANCEL REDECORATED

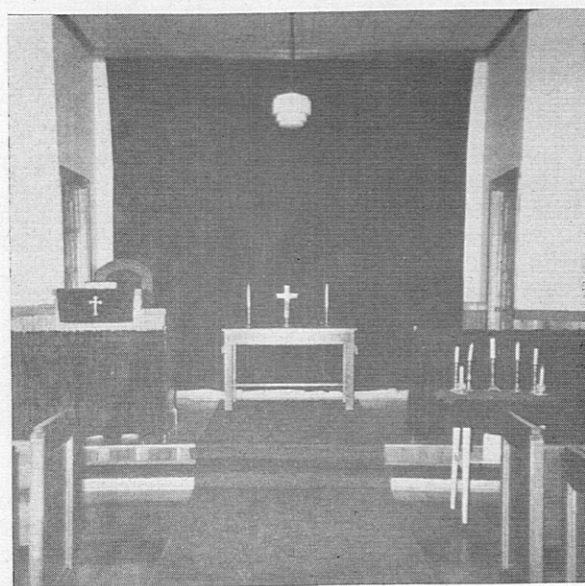
(From page 10)

beautiful matching brass Baptismal bowl. The curtain at the rear was made by some ladies in the church, the cost of the curtain material being provide largely by a group in a church formerly served by Mr. Porter in Rhode Island. This group was organized by Mrs. Porter and they have kept in touch with her all through the years. Some months ago they sent a check for \$50 to be used by the Rev. Porter "in his work in any way he saw fit". This almost paid for the curtain material.

So the new chancel actually cost the church very little in cash. It did mean a great deal of volunteer work and much imagination, and the congregation is pleased and happy over the improvement.



"BEFORE"



"AFTER"

Church News

Dr. and Mrs. Marshall Wingfield, pastors of the MEMPHIS FIRST CHURCH, moved into their own home in February. An interesting feature of the moving process was the "tote party" by the Men's Club in which they moved Dr. Wingfield's library of 5,000 books. Mrs. Wingfield laughingly reported that she believed the men would have moved all the furniture too, if they had let them!

The old Manse of the church is being used as a parish house. The nursery school was moved there, and the young people, groups of trustees, etc., have found it a fine meeting place for small meetings. The church congregation is sharing their furniture, curtains, baby equipment, radios and record players and it is hoped to have a ping pong table placed in a large room for the young people.

A group of young husbands and wives have already painted the kitchen and pantry. The young teenagers and juniors worked on Saturday polishing floors, cleaning windows for the first coffee hour at which they served. It was a great success, and the church now has a coffee hour each time new members are received into the church.

A Pilgrim Fellowship group was organized on March 27.

Dr. Wingfield has just had another book published, the first biography of General A. P. Stewart ever issued in book form and published by the West Tennessee Historical Society.

* * *

The Men's Club of the STEARNS COMMUNITY CHURCH has sponsored the project of putting asbestos siding on three sides of the church building. This was done by voluntary labor of the men and the contributions of approximately \$300 by the members and friends of the church. The work was done at night by the aid of floodlights and, while no record of the hours of labor was kept, the voluntary labor enabled us to finish the work at about half the cost of hiring it done. The men plan to put siding on the remaining side of the building this year.

The Community Church again sponsored a community-wide Easter Service at 6:30 a. m. on Easter Sunday. This service was held on the Stearns Golf Course and combined the efforts of our church, the First Baptist Church of Stearns, and the Methodist and Christian Churches of Whitley City. Following the service a breakfast of doughnuts and coffee was served in our church.

- G. S. Hunt, Pastor

* * *

Supt. Erston M. Butterfield was a recent visitor to the DAISY-SODDY PARISH. He challenged his audience to know the Master, the Message and the Mission of the Church.

After a joint fellowship luncheon served at the Soddy Church, an informal question and answer session was chaired by the Superintendent, in which he clarified the relation of the local church to the state conference, the Southeast Convention, and the General Council.

An effective dedication of the Woman's Gift was given under the chairmanship of Mrs. Lewis Hair at the Soddy Women's Fellowship in March.

Mrs. Walter Wood, Miss Mary Ann Roberts, and Miss Mary Edith Wood portrayed persons that were helped by the Woman's Gift.

Miss Elizabeth Jenkins gave the opening prayer. The service was concluded by Miss Jimmy Lou Teague, accompanied by Miss Hannah Roberts, organist, singing "Take My Life and Let It Be".

* * *

The SOCIETY HILL CHURCH of Ft. Valley, under the leadership of the Rev. A. W. Dorsey, has begun midweek services. The first one was well attended, with 44 present. A deacon's meeting was also held, with all deacons present, for a general business discussion.

A Junior Pilgrim Fellowship has been organized, with 9 members, and officers are: President, Morris Hudson; Vice President, Ethalene Wiggins; Secretary and Treasurer, Martha Garden; and Reporter, Deloris Walker.

- Mrs. T. B. Jackson, Reporter

* * *

The choir of the CHIPLEY, OAK GROVE CHURCH recently had an opportunity to participate in Ashford's cantata, "The Beattitudes", given under the direction of Dr. R. Julian O'Neal. Choirs of the Chipley Baptist and Methodist churches also participated, and the cantata was given March 18 at the Oak Grove Church. It was to be given also at the Columbus First Church and a third performance is planned somewhere in the area.

According to Dr. O'Neal, the cantata has three major solo parts, and these will be filled by Miss Eva Hoxie, soprano; Mrs. Marguerite Askew, contralto; and Larry Thompson, tenor. Other important sections will be offered by Mrs. Dorothy Smith, lyric soprano; and Del Hoxie, baritone. Pianist is Mrs. Viva Vetter; Mrs. Jeanne Everett is organist.

Dr. O'Neal, now residing in Chipley, is a 37 year old pianist and composer whose talents obtained him scholarships to such famed musical centers as France's "Sorbonne" and "Fountainbleau". He studied under Ignace Paderewski and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

He taught compositions and music at London's Royal College of Music, Austria's University of Vienna, and in this country was professor of music at the University of Denver, Colo.

- Henry C. Weaver, Pastor

* * *

The RICHLAND FIRST CHURCH observed February 20 as Church Builders Day. Several members paid their dues for another year, and we obtained one new member.

We also observed World Day of Prayer on February 25 at 7:30 p. m., inviting the women of the Methodist and Baptist churches to worship with us, and some of the Methodist women took part in the program. It was a very inspiring program and song service. At the close of the services, a social hour was enjoyed with delicious sandwiches and Russian tea.

- Mrs. W. J. Abell, Reporter

The AMBROSE CHURCH is happy to announce that the Rev. Goff Bedford was called by our members to serve our church as pastor, with the assistance of a lay preacher, and to preach one Sunday each month. Since he came to us in January, our church has made much progress.

Two rest rooms have been completed in our church, and a bathroom has been added in the parsonage—also a new sink and hot water heater.

Our church has begun half-time services, with preaching two Sundays each month, and a weekly prayer meeting on Thursday nights. Our Sunday School attendance has increased, and we have organized a Pilgrim Fellowship group.

Our young people went to the Vanceville Church near Tifton on March 27 to a PF meeting, and reported a fine program. Our young people invited the Tifton young people to Ambrose Church for a party in the afternoon, playing outdoor games and enjoying a weiner roast supper over an outdoor fire. About 50 were in attendance.

Our spring revival was held in March, beginning the 13th and running through the 20th. Mr. Bedford did all the preaching, and we gained nine new members.

On March 17 Miss Lelia Anderson, the Pilgrim Circuit Rider, visited our church for a day and night.

On March 28-29 we entertained the South Georgia Pilgrim Fellowship Workers Council, and were very happy to have both Miss Mildred Widber and James Price with us in this meeting. Around 125 people attended, and we feel it was most helpful and worthwhile.

It has been very inspiring to us all to have had these three national staff workers with us in our church and area, and we feel that their visits have been helpful and have given us much needed information.

- Mrs. Oswald Vickers, Reporter

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The COLUMBUS FIRST CHURCH has been very busy in this fifth year of the present pastor, the Rev. Peter Doherty. All during the winter the Men's Fellowship has sponsored and conducted prayer meetings in the homes of the church people. These meetings have been well attended, as many as 50 people crowding into the homes.

The men have also conducted several church services, bringing messages of blessing and power. We have just finished a week of special meetings conducted by a layman, Captain Jared B. Schopper of Fort Benning. Sgt. and Mrs. Gale Gingery, both with degrees in music, were in charge of the music. Each evening Sgt. Gingery, as tenor soloist and song leader, added inspiration.

This small church has been carrying a very heavy load of local financial obligations. Last year \$10,000 was paid into the church treasury and now that most of this local obligation has been taken care of we have started paying our pledge to the Church Building Loan Fund and hope to finish paying it this year.

Despite the financial struggle, the church has been most generous to the pastor and his wife, presenting them with clothing and other valuable gifts.

The latest addition to the church program was a \$795 piano for the church auditorium.

On Easter Sunday morning we received ten new members into the fellowship—seven on confession and three by letter. There are eight more who expect to join our fellowship in the near future. All of our services are preceded by prayer meetings in one or two of our church school rooms.

Our women of the church are also doing splendid work with many different activities in connection with the church program.

- Peter Doherty, Pastor

* * *

That the Women's Fellowship of LaGRANGE UNITED CHURCH has been busy during the past months was shown by reports given at the last quarterly meeting.

Under the very capable leadership of our president, Mrs. Melvin Moore, the women's work is progressing spiritually and otherwise. Our membership is divided into three circles which meet twice each month for programs and business, and we hold four quarterly joint meetings for devotions, reports and fellowship.

At the March 1 meeting splendid reports were made by the secretary of each circle. Our women have accepted the challenge of carrying the spirit of Christ and the Church through visitation and giving aid to less fortunate families. It is with a spirit of humility and service that we go into homes of the church and community where sickness and bereavement have come to share the Christian experience with others in giving and serving. We participate in all church and community activities whenever the opportunity arises.

At this meeting our Woman's Gift was dedicated in a service led by Mrs. B. L. Allen, assisted by Mrs. Watt Kelley, Miss Bessie McClendon and Mrs. Artis Hardy, Woman's Gift chairman of each circle. A feature of the program was a solo, "Take My Life", by Mrs. Maynard Burnham.

We recently observed "World Day of Prayer" on February 25 and were well represented at the



LA GRANGE CHURCH OFFICERS

Left to right: Mrs. B. L. Allen, Miss Bessie McClendon, Mrs. Artis Hardy and Mrs. Watt Kelley.

Women's Spring Rally at Oak Grove Church on March 16.

One of our projects is to sponsor the luncheon for the monthly meeting of the Congregational Christian ministers of this area, which is held at our church. We have other projects which we hope to tell more about later.

- Mrs. John Laubenthal, Reporter

* * *

On April 10th the Rev. Ashley E. Hobbs began his pastorate at WILLIAMS CHAPEL CHURCH, near Waycross. We are all looking forward to a good future with Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs as our leaders.

We were very fortunate in having Jack Dyal, a young man who is preparing for the ministry, to preach for us while we were without a pastor. He brought very inspiring messages and our attendance was very good during that period.

Our building fund is growing and we hope to have a new church building in the not too distant future. Plans have been made for our 23rd anniversary and Homecoming Day the first Sunday in May.

On Easter Sunday the younger Sunday School classes presented a program during the church school hour. Two babies were dedicated to the Lord.

The Ladies Guild is a busy group—they pack boxes of clothes to send where they are needed, and meet each week to sew quilt scraps. The quilts are then sold and the proceeds go to the building fund.

The Young Adult Class, composed of young married women, and the Men's Bible Class have given Bibles to our 14 new members—all of which are young people. We have a large and active group of young people, and they are making plans for great things in their Pilgrim Fellowship this year.

- Mrs. C. H. Griffin, Reporter

* * *

Attendance at MT. CREEK UNION CHURCH and Sunday School is still increasing, and on March 20 we received two new members into our fellowship. We are pleased and happy to have them unite with us.

In February, the Rev. Otto Culpepper, pastor, met with the men of the church and community and organized a layman's fellowship with 17 members. Officers of the club are as follows: President, Lacy Strength; Vice President, Duncan McInees; Secretary, S. F. Johnson; Treasurer, Jas. Bridges; Program Committee, Graham Norris and Duncan McInees. Each member agreed to pay 25 cents at each meeting toward a fund for the needy and other purposes.

Mrs. E. R. Wilson and son Donald donated a house to be torn down and moved to the church to build a club house for the young people's recreational center. The labor is being donated by members of the laymen's fellowship, with the women providing picnic lunches to be served to the workers each Saturday until the project is completed.

On March 27 the Circuit Rider, Miss Lelia An-

derson, visited our church, bringing inspiration and information that held everyone's interest.

- Mrs. Leonard Smith and
Mrs. S. F. Johnson, Jr.

* * *

The members of ANDALUSIA ANTIOCH CHURCH were very happy to have the opportunity to participate in the Church Builders Club Day. Several joined and are happy to support such an important and worthy organization.

A large group of our women attended the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Women's Rally at First Church in Andalusia. They enjoyed a day of business, inspiration and fellowship.

The men of our church presented a "Womanless Wedding" recently, and the women of the church realized much the women's aids to beauty do help when they saw the men all dressed up in women's clothes and with makeup. The men were startled and dismayed to find the lipstick they had applied so generously was "kiss-proof" and would not come off. Some came to church the next day with rosy lips; others just did not show up in public. They felt it was all in a good cause, however, when the pastor announced that the proceeds of the "wedding" amounted to \$116. We are very proud of our men. They did a wonderful job in more ways than one, and during the practice sessions they built a portable stage which we can also use for tables.

Roller skating seems to be quite a fad among Antioch church members. The Senior PF makes it a regular habit, and the Juniors were initiated last week along with their parents. It's hard to say whether the Juniors or the parents enjoyed the skating more, or which group spent the most time picking themselves up off the floor.

The Senior PF sent the following delegates to the Youth Conference in Lanett March 19-20: Joe Adams, Betty Baisden, Winnie Baisden, Loretta Merrill, and Mary Evelyn Thrasher.

For the month of March the Senior PF was divided into two teams to compete for the highest average attendance, the losers entertaining the winners.

Mrs. Mamie Bradley is doing a wonderful job of directing our choir, and it adds so much to our church music.

- Winnie Dye, Reporter

* * *

April was a very busy month at ANDALUSIA ANTIOCH CHURCH. First came our pre-Easter revival, during which we looked back on Jesus' life as He lived the week before His Crucifixion. All the messages were very inspiring and were well attended. The Easter Sunrise Service had to be held indoors due to rain.

The Juniors took charge of the Sunday School Worship and used "What Easter Means To Me" as their theme.

During the morning worship service ten new members were received and five of these were baptized. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Clark dedicated their infant son and he was also baptized.

On April 16-17 the Pilgrim Fellowship Christian Life Conference met here. We all enjoyed having the delegates and speakers as our guests.

Sunday afternoon of April 17 the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association met as a

Council for the examination of our pastor, the Rev. William Raymond Berry, for his ordination to the Christian ministry. The ordination took place during the evening worship.

We enjoyed very much having the Rev. Lelia Anderson, the Pilgrim Circuit Rider, meet with us on April 12th.

- Mrs. Winne Dye, Reporter

* * *

Since the Rev. Lynwood Hubbard assumed the pastorate of the ALEXANDER CITY HUNT CHURCH in December, a great deal of progress has been made.

The deacons and trustees met and revised the church rolls, bringing them up to date, and went over the church books.

A radio program was begun each Sunday morning, and a study of the Old Testament has begun each Wednesday evening. A revival service was planned and held the week of April 10.

The Pilgrim Fellowship has been active, and had a picnic during March.

* * *

The LANETT CHURCH was represented at the National Laymen's Fellowship Convention in Chicago by John Dollar, Jr. and Herman D. Cook. John is president of the local group, while Herman holds the office of Recording Secretary of the National Fellowship and is also a member of its Executive Committee.

A dedication service was held March 6 for the first grade room equipment, which was presented to the church by the family of the late George F. Hatcher. Members of the family sat in a body for this impressive service. It is indeed helpful to have needed equipment donated as a memorial to loved ones.

On March 13 a service of dedication was held for the sanctuary draperies—a lovely gold which is symbolic of purity, light and joy.

At our quarterly Missionary Auxiliary meeting in March the Circle members had a kitchen utensil shower. Among the useful items brought was

Church Activities Calendar

The Church Activities Calendar and Ministers' and Church Leaders' Work Book is now ready. It is the only publication in the denomination which gives all the information on all the subjects of promotional interest to the minister and church leaders. It includes generous space for daily calendar notes, appointments and special observances. Size 11x10 inches, convenient for desk. Price is 60 cents. Copies may be ordered through the Convention Office, or from the Missions Council, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10.

a salad master donated by Mr. and Mrs. Roby McDonald.

Delegates from our church attending the Women's Rally at Roanoke First Church were: Mrs. Frank Hatcher, Mrs. Ruby Smith, Mrs. Paul Beaird, Mrs. J. W. Roquemore, Mrs. Render Fuller, Mrs. Lena Stephens, Mrs. Gladys Carlisle, Mrs. A. D. Harry, Mrs. Tom Crenshaw.

The fourth annual Leadership Training School of Valley Churches held at Lanett March 20-25 was well attended with an enrollment of approximately 100.

We were happy to have been hosts to the first Southeast Convention Pilgrim Fellowship Conference March 19-20. Churches in the Valley area who so graciously assisted in the entertaining and lodging were West Point Bethel, Shawmut Todd, Huguley and Langdale. About 65 young people were present.

During Lent the Rev. French had a most effective setting for worship services, using a large, rugged cross made of Dogwood. While the Choir sang "Kneel At the Cross" at the call of worship, the Rev. French knelt at the foot of the cross.

During the month of April our morning worship services were broadcast over the local station. We presented our Easter Cantata, "Our Risen Lord", by Ira B. Wilson during this time.

- Mrs. A. D. Harry, Reporter



LANETT CHOIR WITH PASTOR, REV. FRENCH

673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia

THE AMERICAN BOARD NEEDS MEN AND WOMEN

Through the years the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions has sent more than five thousand men and women to more than a score of lands to preach, care for the sick, teach, work in agriculture and do social service—to found churches, schools and hospitals in the name of Christ. Around the names and works of these five thousand are woven the purple and gold threads of our historical church fabric. The foundations they built are strong for eternity.

Currently the Board is looking for 75 consecrated people who are willing to put a premium upon their God-given talents; needed are Christian leaders willing to assume responsibility. These recruits for overseas service will work in the company of 350 Americans and 12,500 Christian nationals who are now engaged in furthering Our Christian World Mission through 12 projects in 14 countries.

In all its work, the Board has raised up and trained national Christian leaders who have, in turn, assumed increasing responsibility for the work, and who have carried the mission further on. The Board has always worked close to the people, adapting its emphases to new conditions, new emergencies and new needs. It is pioneering today as in 1810 when it was organized as the first foreign mission society in our country. Its vast experience enables it to operate effectively 760 schools and colleges, 73 hospitals and dispensaries, 11 social centers and 1900 churches embracing a community of 500,000 souls. To support this program \$1,500,735 was spent in 1954. An additional \$2,580,919 was contributed by nationals overseas.

To corporate with others, maintain high standards of service, to share the best of the west with the world, and above all, to extend the Church of Jesus Christ and train leadership for it, the American Board is committed today.

NEEDED BY SEPTEMBER 1955

MINISTERS to work with churches in Africa, Japan, Europe, Mexico, Micronesia, and for community service in the Near East.

DOCTORS for hospitals in India and the Near East.

NURSES with degrees for hospitals, nurses training and public health work in Africa, India and Turkey.

TEACHERS for secondary schools in Africa, Philippines, Syria and Turkey - teaching English, math, science, home economics, and commercial subjects.

BUSINESS MANAGER for Rhodesia and a **SECRETARY** in Turkey.

If interested, write now to Candidate Department, American Board, 14 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass.

"We Came This Way"

This sound motion picture gives some of the highlights of our Congregational Christian heritage through art drawings depicting historical incidents in our forefathers' struggle for freedom of worship, public education and democratic government.

It was produced by the Division of Church Extension and Evangelism and rental price is \$3.00 in color or \$2.00 in black and white. Order from Audio Visual Aids Dept., 287 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

The Bus Class

After a recent membership drive, the Adult Class of the East Tallassee Church grew to such proportions that it was decided to have separate classes for women and men. At first the men held their class in a spare bedroom of the parsonage.

Interest and enthusiasm of members increased the Men's Class until the bedroom would no longer accommodate the large group, and another meeting place had to be found. The church hires a bus to bring people to its Sunday services and the solution was found by using the bus as a classroom for the men.

Here is a picture of the class one Sunday morning when several members were absent. Kneeling, L to R: Churchill Ledbetter, Dallas Golden, Ed Hammock, Rev. Herbert Long, Murray Baker, J. C. Coleman and Felix Logan. Standing: L to R: Otis Alexander, Floyd Ballard, Harvey Pemberson, Charles Messer, J. D. Hammock, Rudolph Raunton, Ben Patterson, Floyd Carmack, Ralph Hammock, R. L. Fields, Ed Story and Clifton Fralic. Standing in the doorway is the youngest member of the class and its teacher, Marrell Rhodes.

